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DIVISION OF STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

INSECT AND DISEASE REPORT

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FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE DETECTION SURVEY
OF THE BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST, MONTANA AND IDAHO

by

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Aerial and ground detection surveys of the Bitterroot National Forest were conducted during the latter part of July and the first part of September. The following is a review of current conditions.

WESTERN SPRUCE BUDWORM, Choristoneura occidentalis Free.--Western spruce budworm infestations remain about the same as 1970 on the west side of the Bitter Root River from Lolo Creek to Wild Horse Creek. Very little defoliation was observed in Deep Creek and the upper Selway drainages. However, a few isolated spots showing light defoliation were detected in this area. Very little defoliation was observed on the northeast portion of the Forest, from Little Willow Creek to Eight Mile Creek. A total of 175,000 acres showed aerially visible defoliation (Fig. 1).

PINE BUTTERFLY, Neophasia menapia (F. & F.)--Pine butterfly defoliation was evident on ponderosa pine stands from Maple Creek to Hamilton along foothills west of the Bitter Root River (Fig. 1). This infestation is currently being evaluated. A detailed report will be sent at a later date.

PINE ENGRAVER, Ips pini (Say) and MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE, Dendroctonus ponderosae Hopk.--Infestations appear to have decreased somewhat from last year. However, there were some new attacks adjacent to old infestation centers.

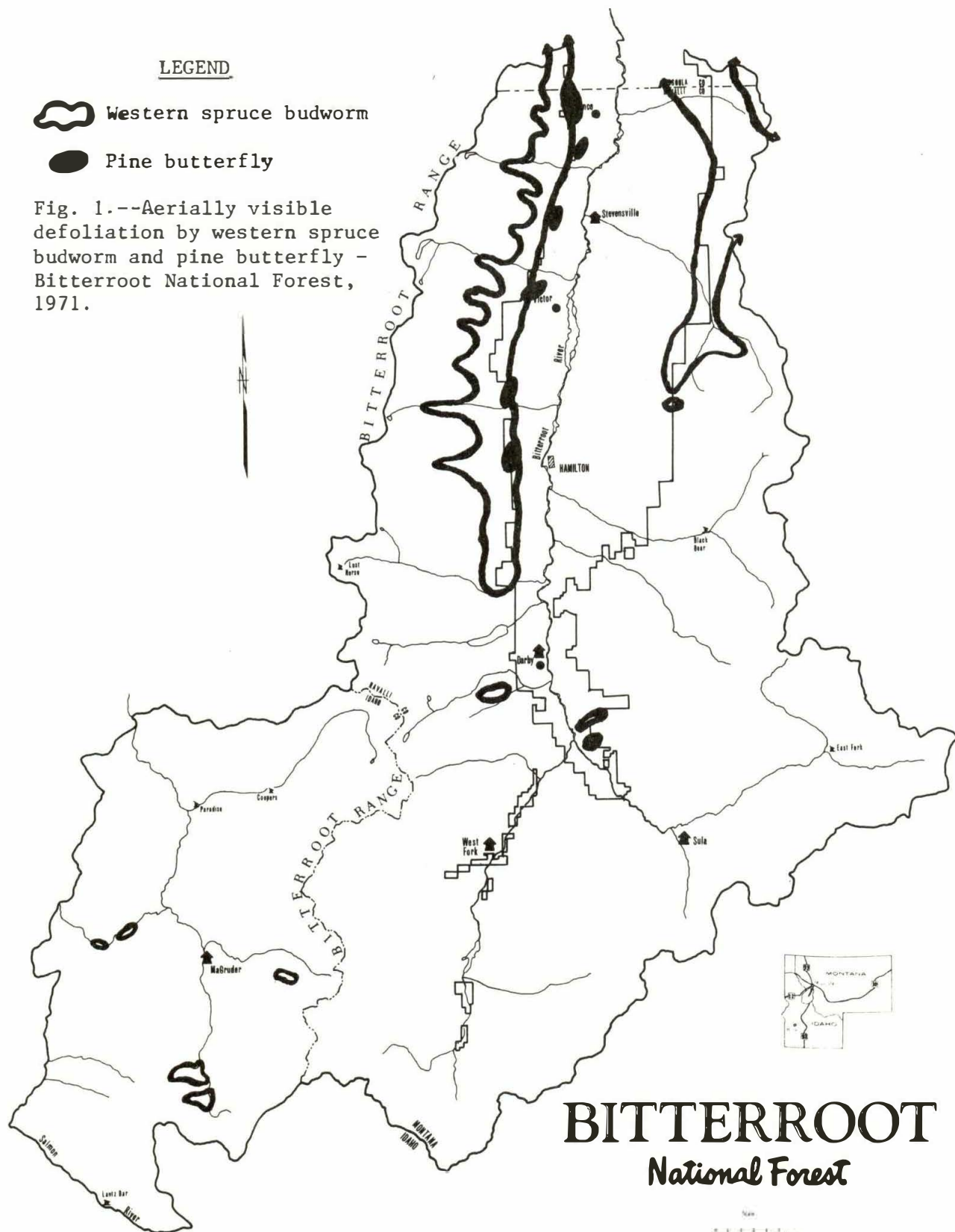
Douglas-fir beetle activity seems to be increasing again on the East Fork of the Bitter Root River, especially on the upper end around Star and Kurtz Creeks. New attacks were observed adjacent to old infestation centers. This area will be ground checked and evaluated late this fall.

LEGEND

 Western spruce budworm

 Pine butterfly

Fig. 1.--Aerially visible defoliation by western spruce budworm and pine butterfly - Bitterroot National Forest, 1971.

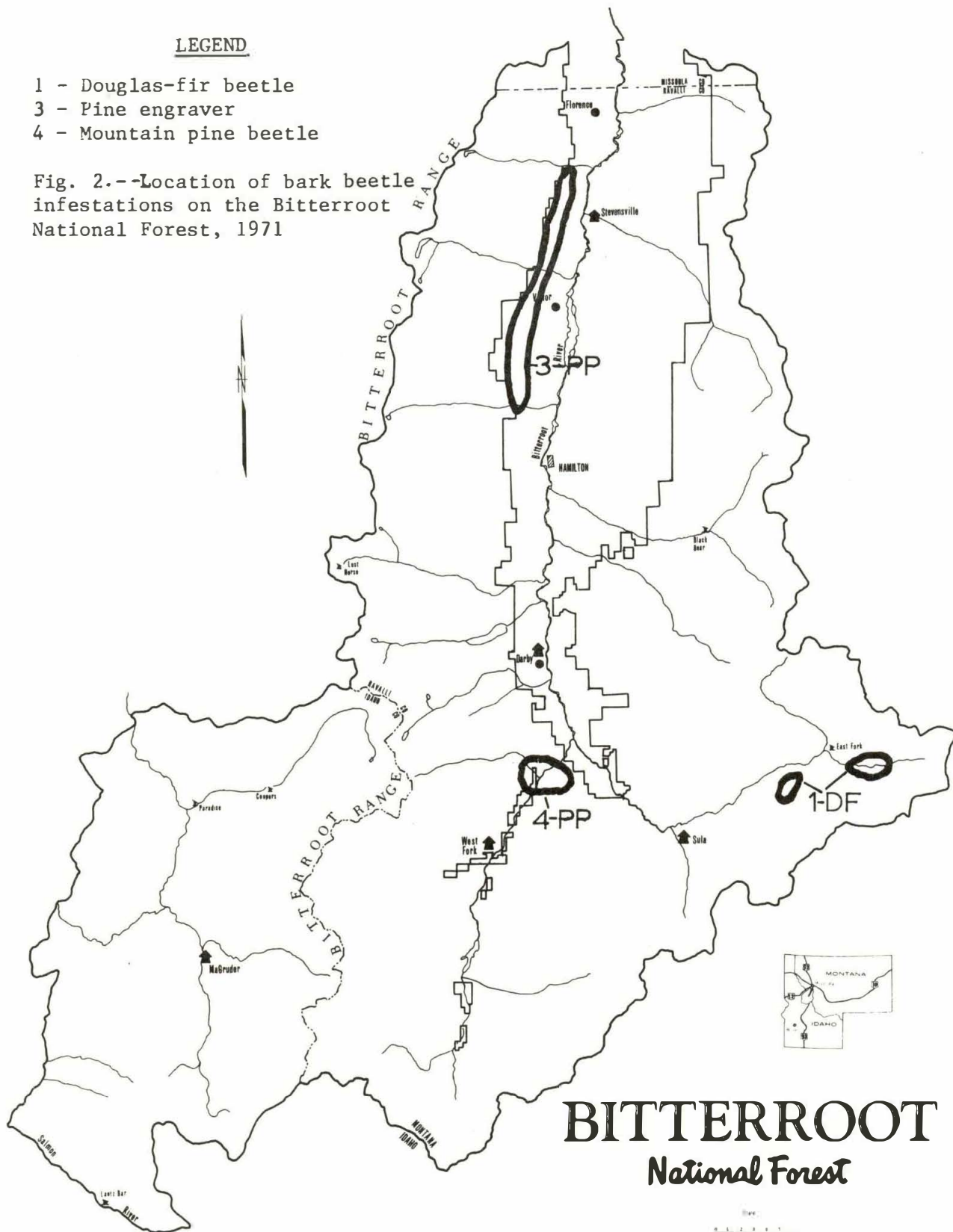


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LEGEND

- 1 - Douglas-fir beetle
- 3 - Pine engraver
- 4 - Mountain pine beetle

Fig. 2.--Location of bark beetle infestations on the Bitterroot National Forest, 1971



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